

PURSUIT OF VILLA IS HOPELESS

AID OF RAILROADS IS BADLY NEEDED

Entire Mexican Situation Veiled in Obscurity So Far as Border is Concerned.

NEWS IS VERY SCANTY

American Officers Do Not Believe Reports That Villa is Seriously Wounded.

EL PASO, April 6.—The entire Mexican situation was veiled in obscurity Thursday so far as the border was concerned. For the last three days not a single Mexican or American has arrived here from the interior, and the scanty news given out by the Mexican officials at Juarez is received by telegraph and throws no light on the operations of the troops pursuing Villa beyond confirming the impression that the chase has been practically halted at least temporarily.

Army officers here show no hesitancy in expressing their opinion that to attempt to pursue Villa farther without the aid of the railroads is almost a hopeless task unless, of course some lucky accident intervenes. The one incalculable factor is the question as to whether Villa is wounded or not. The Mexican commanders are emphatic in their assertions that the bandit is seriously disabled, but their belief is not shared by the American commanders. That Villa should spread a report to the effect he had been shot is so characteristic a maneuver that it is received with considerable reservation.

Intimations in Washington that the Carranza government might soon indicate to the American government that the troops pursuing Villa were fully following a cold trail and that the defecting government would welcome the return of the United States troops to their own country occasioned no surprise in El Paso Thursday.

There have been insistent reports here that the defecting government looked with disfavor on a further pursuit of Villa because the presence of American troops on Mexican soil was proving an embarrassment. These reports could not be confirmed because the Mexican officials, both here and in Juarez, said the questions of a diplomatic nature must be considered by the government heads at Queretaro.

Army officers here say that while the difficulties of the Villa hunt increase daily and that it may be weeks before he is captured, the pursuit will be relentlessly continued until word comes from Washington to withdraw the troops.

Twenty Apache scouts passed through here Thursday en route to the front, where they will try to pick up Villa's trail. The Apaches made an unbroken ride of sixty miles from Fort Apache to Holbrook, Ariz., and then did a war dance before taking the train.

AN AMERICAN OFFICER FLEES FROM SMALLPOX

AT THE FRONT IN MEXICO, General Pershing's camp, April 3, by aeroplane to Columbus, N. M., April 5.—An officer here said how he retreated from a house where he believed he was about to discover a Villa bandit. It was during the search of a mountain district, where there was a suspicion that Villa might be concealed until his wounds healed.

Many houses were under search when this officer saw what he took to be a wounded man lying in bed in a room. He swung open the door, pistol in hand and hurried across the room.

The man in bed in the very poor light looked more than ever like a wounded bandit. The officer started to turn down the blanket covering the Mexican but at one look he fled. He had discovered a case of smallpox.

RECENT RECRUITS TO BE SENT TO BORDER

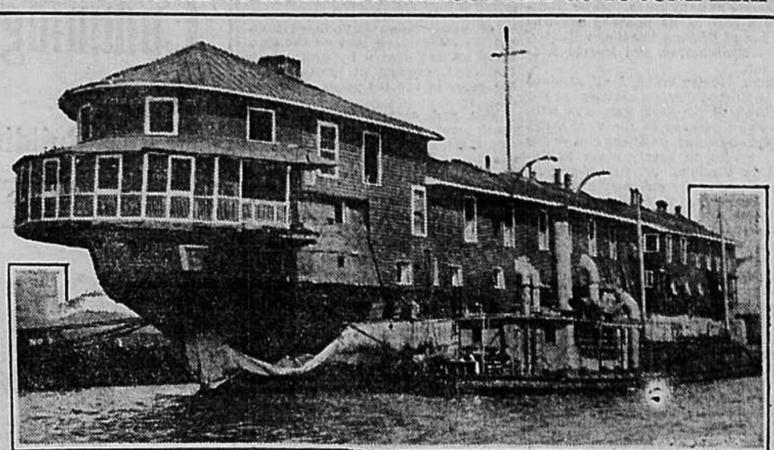
WASHINGTON, April 6.—General Funston Thursday asked the war department to send the recruits enlisted on the recent authorization of 20,000 additional men to Brownsville, Tex., for distribution among the border patrol assignments. The recruits are being assembled and drilled at recruiting stations at Jefferson barracks, Mo., Columbus, O. barracks, Fort Logan, Colo., and Fort Alcatraz, Calif. They will not be sent across the border but will fill up regiments of the border guard.

At General Funston's request a battery of the Fourth field artillery, which had been ordered from Brownsville to the Panama canal zone, will remain on the border in view of Mexican conditions.

MILLER FINER \$5 AND COSTS.

Andrew Miller, of the New Fair Grounds, was fined \$5 and costs by Magistrate J. V. Carter when he confessed to a charge of dumping garbage on a lot owned by a Mr. Smith of that addition. Miller was arrested late Wednesday afternoon by J. H. Tenney on a warrant that he had sworn out earlier in the day upon complaint from a number of residents of that suburb.

FAMOUS FLAGSHIP OF ADMIRAL FARRAGUT MAY GO TO JUNK HEAP



The U. S. S. Franklin.

The U. S. S. Franklin, flagship of Admiral Farragut in 1867, one of the largest gunboats afloat at that time, has recently been sold by the navy department for \$16,787.53. She cost approximately \$1,380,000 to build and was one of the six mighty vessels laid down by Secretary of the Navy James C. Dobbins in 1864. The new owners have not decided whether to dismantle the old craft for junk or to use it as an exhibition boat. She is now anchored at Portsmouth, Va.

FRENCH TAKE SQUARE WOOD

SEXTON HANGS

Himself under Belfry of Church Where He Did Service Thirty-One Years.

NEW YORK, April 6.—Under the belfry of old St. Paul's chapel the sexton hanged himself Thursday. Phillip G. Walter, tiring as he had recently complained of the monotony of his position after thirty-one years of service at the famous edifice at Broadway and Vesel street, climbed up on a piano stool which he had placed upon a table, fastened a sash around his neck, tied the end of this cord to the stairs leading to the belfry and kicked the stool from under him.

SPECIAL MEETING.

Hermion Lodge of Masons will hold a special meeting at 7:30 o'clock tonight in the Masonic temple to do work in the third degree.

In the Course of Fighting in the Verdun Region West of the Meuse River.

TWO GERMAN ATTACKS

At One Point of the Line Germans Succeeded in Penetrating French Positions.

BELLIN, April 6.—German troops have stormed the village of Haucourt on the Avocourt-Bethancourt front, northwest of Verdun, the war office announced Thursday.

PARIS, April 6.—The war office announced Thursday capture by the French of a large portion of the positions north of Avocourt known as "Square wood. This ground was captured in the course of fighting which went on all of Wednesday afternoon and last night in the Verdun region west of the Meuse on the Avocourt-Bethancourt line.

At one point along the line the Germans succeeded in penetrating French positions. Two attacks were made by German troops against French positions north of Callette wood, but they were without results.

ZEPPELIN FAILS

In the Fifth Raid in Six Days through Effectiveness of Anti-Aircraft Defense.

LONDON, April 6.—The increasing effectiveness of England's anti-aircraft defenses was demonstrated last night when the single Zeppelin which undertook the fifth raid in six days was prevented from penetrating the northeast coast and was forced to flee after the briefest visit of the kind yet made.

The night was clear and without wind. Searchlights discovered the raider coming over the sea and never once lost him during his stay. As he reached the coast he was flying comparatively low and the smallest guns found him such an easy target that he was forced to rise to a great height. The larger guns then found the range and aided by the searchlights they surrounded the Zeppelin with a terrific hail of shrapnel and high explosive shells. After maneuvering near a northeast coast town for about ten minutes, the raider was seen to turn and to sail homeward.

TRAIN ROBBER

Is Being Taken to Atlanta to Appear as Witness against His Two Brothers.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., April 6.—John Richard Harrison, confessed train robber, accompanied by Inspector E. A. Mackey and Deputy United States Marshal Hanley started Thursday for Atlanta, Ga., where Harrison will appear as a witness against his two brothers, Charles and Jeff Harrison; his cousin, William Carl Rentz, Jr., and Benjamin McKee, all under arrest on charges of train robbery.

With Harrison's arrest inspectors recovered \$2,000 of \$100,650 in unissued bank notes taken in the Central Station, W. Va., train robbery, October 1, 1915. Harrison has made a complete confession to inspectors. It is said.

GIRL BORN.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Regimont. The recruits are Wednesday night and left a bouncing baby girl. Mother and baby are doing nicely.

FOOD DEMONSTRATION.

The Helms people will give a demonstration of their "Fifty-seven Varieties" at the opening of Fischer and Ueberger's new store which will be held Saturday. The store is located next to Goff Plaza, Broad Oaks.

STORE TO BE SOLD.

Owing to the ill health of Will Ewitt, he has been forced to leave his business and go to Mexico. The store has been closed for more than three weeks, and now that the lease has expired, the stock and fixtures will be placed on sale Friday morning in order to dispose of them and vacate the premises.

RAIN PREVENTS GAME.

BLACKSBURG, Va., April 6.—The West Virginia Wesleyan-Virginia Polytechnic Institute baseball game scheduled here Wednesday was called off on account of rain, which fell just before time to start. The Wesleyan team plays Marshall today.

COUNCIL MEETING.

The city council will hold a meeting Friday night. The election returns will be canvassed, the results officially announced and certificates of election issued.

BLUE

Is Likely to Run in the Second District for Congressional Nomination.

CHARLESTON, April 6.—News comes to Charleston from different points in the Second district that one of the names likely to be considered when the Republicans meet to nominate a man for the vacant place in Congress is that of Fred O. Blue, of Barbour county. The tax commissioner has now only a few more months of his term to serve, and the law makes him ineligible to succeed himself. While he has given no intimation that he would make any effort whatever to capture the nomination for Congress, it is believed that he is in many respects the most available piece of timber the Second district has for this emergency, and that he would not say them nay if the Republicans of the Second manifest a desire to draft him for the congressional service.

NEW STEP TAKEN TO ENFORCE LAW

FINE SCHOOL BUILDING TO BE ERECTED

At Price of \$40,000 with a Local Firm as Architect for the Same.

S. W. Ford, of the firm of S. W. Ford and Company, has just returned from Richmond, Nicholas county, where his firm was awarded the contract by the board of education of that city to prepare plans and specifications and superintend the construction of a school building to be built there, the cost of which will be in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

Richwood is a thriving mountain town of about 6,000 inhabitants and has a "hum" of industry not equaled by many of the larger cities of the state. The town has developed so rapidly that the board of education has not been able to keep pace with requirements for buildings and equipment. Consequently, a bond issue for \$40,000 was proposed and the energy with which the citizens went about "carrying" the bond issue, was amazing. The students, both boys and girls, turned out in force. Many of the boys operated automobiles and no voter escaped.

The voting place was arranged in a back corner of the upper floor of the old school building and was thus made an "electioneering" feature of the campaign for the bond issue, as all voters were compelled to traverse almost the entire building in order to get to the polls.

The present buildings are improvised affairs, and placards were placed throughout the halls calling voters attention to the present conditions. As a result, it was stated that many who had opposed the proposition voted an open ballot for it when they arrived at the voting place.

The vote was almost unanimous for the bond issue. S. W. Ford and Company, the architects chosen by the board, have built a great many schools, and the selection of these architects for this work assures the fact that Richwood will have a modern school building when the one contemplated is completed.

Work will be started at once and an effort will be made to have the new building ready to occupy during the coming school year.

HEART DISEASE

Causes Death of S. E. Bennett Well Known Resident of Tyler County.

S. S. Bennett, aged 77 years, a well known resident of Tyler county, died at 10 o'clock Wednesday night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. D. E. Anderson, of Marshville. Mr. Bennett had been ill for some time, his death being due to heart disease.

Surviving relatives of the deceased man are Mrs. Viola Wright, Mrs. Mary Crawford and Mrs. D. E. Anderson, daughters, and Kinsey Bennett, a son. The body was prepared for burial and will be taken to his home Friday and the funeral services will be held there and the burial will be in the Simpson cemetery. The funeral party will leave here at 5:50 o'clock Friday morning for Middlebourne.

In Italy fuel made of old newspapers rolled and compressed is coming into use as a substitute for firewood.

BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED BY SHIPPERS

And Merchants if the Brotherhoods Win Their Demand the Latter Declare.

WHEELING, April 6.—Yost law enforcement having settled down to a battle of wits between the speak-easy proprietors and prohibition officers, so far as this city is concerned, Deputy Commissioner Bert Phillips and Attorney Earhart of the Anti-Saloon League have hit upon a device which they are confident will break up the illicit liquor traffic in Wheeling.

Heretofore they have arrested only the proprietors and confiscated contraband found on the premises. The raiding officers have taken the names of persons found in the speak-easies, but deputy sheriffs have been unable to find them to serve subpoenas as witnesses before the grand juries. As a result, out of 100 presentments before the last two grand juries only six true bills have been returned.

The men indicted have been fore-gone and nervous. Proprietors of the "swell joints" have escaped. Out of 1,000 raids made since the state went "dry" only two of Ohio county's 225 speak-easy proprietors have suffered the penalties prescribed by the Yost law, one on a plea of guilty, the other on conviction in the criminal court.

Under the rule recently adopted by the Yost law authorities the witnesses will be placed under \$500 bond each to assure their appearance before the grand jury. Some of the city's prominent business men and politicians have been found drinking in speak-easies when officers raided them, and have been taken in a patrol wagon to the county jail. The list embraces one city councilman and a leading candidate for member of the county court.

Deputy Commissioner Phillips expresses the conviction that the grand jury cannot refuse to indict upon the testimony of such witnesses as he will produce, and he believes the new danger will keep men away from the speak-easies and cause them to go to Bridgeport, O., for their wet goods.

MRS. LAWLER DEAD

Grandmother of Shinnston Minister is Claimed by the Death Messenger.

Mrs. Katherine Lawler is dead at the home of her son-in-law, Samuel Tucker, at McGee, Taylor county. She was 93 years old on February 22. W. A. Lawler and wife, of Fairmont, and the Rev. T. B. Lawler and wife, of Shinnston, have gone to attend the funeral. Mrs. Lawler was the mother of the late M. J. Lawler and the grandmother of W. A. and T. B. Lawler. She was the wife of the Rev. Jehu Lawler, who died about twenty-five years ago. She had always been a consistent and active member of the southern Methodist church. In the days when doctors were scarce throughout the country she was always ready and glad to go, day or night, and administer to the needs of the suffering.

SEAMEN MISSING.

QUEENSTOWN, April 6.—The British steamer Vent has been torpedoed without warning west of Fastnet. Forty-eight members of its crew are missing and are supposed to have been drowned. Two men were killed. Captain Martin and nine of the crew have landed here.

WERY PAROLED.

Frank Wery, found guilty in the criminal court of a liquor violation, has been paroled.

LOCAL DAUGHTERS REQUESTED TO AID

In the Sale of Cards Representing Flags to Raise Relief Money for Belgians.

A request has been issued by Mrs. William Cumming Story, president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, that small cards representing flags be sold by the members of the organization here for the purpose of relieving the war afflicted people of Belgium. The Daughters of the Revolution of our country represent an organization of more than 100,000 members, and to each one has been sent 100 of these cards to sell at a minimum price of seven cents as that is the cost of the ration of one Belgium for one day.

The sympathy of this country has gone forth toward these Belgians as to no other nation. They were the first victims of Germany's iron heel, and they were unprepared for that unexpected devastation of their homes and farms. The Daughters of the American Revolution feels that this is a great opportunity to perform a valuable service to humanity. In the words of Mrs. Story: "We are called upon by these stricken people for help. Shall we deny them, or as a great, rich, neutral nation shall we come to their aid and rescue? Can we give this service, and with a will and in God's name? Three million of the population of Belgium are entirely or partly dependent upon charity. The need of help will continue until the war is over, and unless help is given them they must perish. It is estimated that 90,000,000 people in America have done nothing for the war sufferers. We are prosperous and happy; it is our country's great opportunity to demonstrate not only its patriotism, but its high ideas, and its own opportunity to take some small part in alleviating the suffering that the war has brought to these innocent, helpless and defenseless people, who are prisoners on their own soil.

"These flags will be for sale in the stores and convenient points on Saturday, April 8, as this is the date of King Alfred's birthday."

PUBLIC HEALTH DAY IS NAMED

By State Health Commissioner in Letters to Various Mayors in West Virginia.

S. L. Jepson, of Charleston, state health commissioner, has sent the following to various mayors in the state:

Dear Sir: The department of health last year instituted a clean-up week and the governor by proclamation appointed a public health day. We have a reason to believe that much good was done by having the people of the state unite in an effort to improve sanitary conditions. This year the effort is to be repeated and Monday, April 17, has been fixed as public health day, the commencement of clean-up week. Experience in other states has shown the value of establishing the habit of thorough cleaning up premises, and of co-operation at a fixed time of the year. The following statement of actual results illustrates the value of such a crusade against filth, especially such as results in the reduction of the number of house flies:

Table with 3 columns: Diseases, Total sicknes, Noncommunicable, Communicable, Possibly fly-borne. Values: 110, 36, 40, 74, 22.

In another case a certain area was rendered free from flies, the total number of days of sickness from diarrheal diseases of children under five years of age was reduced from 984 days in the filthy area to 273 days in the region free from flies.

In view of the above beneficial and life saving results, we urge you to call upon your people to wage a campaign against all manner of filth and uncleanness in your community, assured that the best results will follow in the reduction of sickness, suffering and death; which means the saving of much money in every community.

CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED TO CONCERNS

In and Out of West Virginia by the Secretary of the State.

CHARLESTON, April 6.—Certificates of incorporation have been issued by the secretary of state to the following new concerns, which will operate under the laws of West Virginia: The Land Sales Corporation, of Williamson, with chief works in Suffolk county, New York; authorized capital, \$15,000. Incorporators, E. F. Randolph, John Strothensider, J. M. Smith, Tunis Nunemaker and Guy White, of Williamson; and W. M. Saunders, of Richmond, Va.

The Suffolk Realty Corporation, of Williamson; chief works, Suffolk county, New York; authorized capital, \$25,000. Incorporators, W. B. Wilson, W. P. T. Varney, John Strothensider, J. B. Smith and E. F. Randolph, all of Williamson.

The Crystal Bottling Works, of Princeton; authorized capital, \$10,000. Incorporators, C. P. Hockenberry, D. J. Meister, H. A. Shumate, W. D. Pendleton, all of Princeton, and P. W. Massio, of Athens.

The J. H. Parker & Son Company, of Parkersburg, to conduct mercantile and manufacturing business; authorized capital, \$5,000. Incorporators, J. H. Parker, C. D. Forrer, W. M. Parker, Anna Jones Parker and John Marshall, all of Parkersburg.

CREDIT MEN

Of This State Are to Have Elaborate Headquarters in the City of Pittsburgh.

The state of West Virginia will have elaborate headquarters at Pittsburgh during the annual convention of the National Association of Credit Men, June 13, 14, 15 and 16, according to the information given out by local men interested in the meet. Headquarters will be established at the convention house, the new William Penn hotel, one of the finest structures of its kind in America.

The various state associations will have charge of decorating the West Virginia headquarters with pictures and other exhibits to advertise the respective localities. All state associations have been requested to prepare exhibits, which will be placed in the West Virginia headquarters, thus advertising the state on a national basis. Delegates from every section of the United States will attend.

SUMMER ENGAGEMENT.

Jules Barry, local violinist, who has been studying at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music for several months, will return home Sunday evening and while here Mr. Barry will prepare his orchestra of five pieces for a summer engagement in Tennessee. He has engaged a futeist and cellist, who are at present filling an engagement with the Cincinnati Symphony orchestra. The orchestra will leave June 1.

FOUND GUILTY.

A criminal court jury has found Nathaniel H. Gill guilty of having liquor in a public place.